

Card 481

20 January 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SPECIAL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Report of Conference With Chief, Programs and Planning,
OPC - 19 January 1950

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1. Present:



Staff I - is a small unit charged with overall strategic planning, coordination of planning effort and "planning of planning".

Staff II - is a planning unit organized on an area basis in a manner somewhat similar to OSO Foreign Divisions.

Staff III - is a planning unit organized on a functional basis, i. e., economic, political, sabotage, resistance, etc.

Staffs II and III are apparently as yet undermanned and there is much duplication.

2. In the past two weeks a number of requests have come to OSO from the various elements of Staffs I, II and III of Programs and Planning/OPC to arrange for conferences between representatives of the OPC Plans Staff and representatives of OSO Foreign Branches. On one occasion, within two days requests were received independently from three persons, each one of whom represented a separate section of OPC Plans, for briefing on the same subject. Accordingly, I called first [redacted] and later [redacted] and requested that they arrange a meeting at which the problem of planning liaison between OPC and OSO could be discussed. The present meeting was a result of that request.

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3. [REDACTED] OPC Staff II, had previously conferred with STB several times with a view to getting urgently needed information for their planning purposes. [REDACTED] ICS, had also turned over to STB several requests that he had received from personnel in OPC Staff III.

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4. I explained to [REDACTED] and to his three Staff Chiefs that OSO was willing to cooperate with OPC in any way that it could within the bounds of its capabilities, but that in view of the duplicating requests we had received, I believed it necessary to arrive at some orderly procedure for fulfilling the OPC requests. At [REDACTED] suggestion, I reviewed the duplications which had occurred in the past two weeks and the reaction was immediate and violent, since none of the persons present knew that these requests were being made by personnel under their jurisdiction. All present agreed that such uncoordinated requests would stop immediately and that they would get their personnel under control, and were, I believe, genuinely horrified at the situation. After some discussion it was agreed that all requests from Programs and Planning/OPC for conferences and briefing for planning purposes would be handled between Staff II, P&P/OPC [REDACTED] and STB/OSO [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Staff would be responsible for insuring that when a request was made by OPC for conferences for planning purposes, all elements and requirements of the three OPC Planning Staffs would be coordinated by [REDACTED] before the request was made to STB. It was likewise agreed that all requests for intelligence documents (as opposed to requests for conferences) would be handled by [REDACTED] directly with [REDACTED] ICS, in the same way that these requests have been handled to date.

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Staff I

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5. [REDACTED] (Staff II/OPC, P&P) recommended to their colleagues that it would be desirable for OPC to arrange area responsibility of OPC Branches and Divisions in the same way that OSO had assigned area responsibility to OSO Branches and Divisions. There was some discussion on this point in which I did not take part and no definite conclusion was arrived at. [REDACTED] had previously discussed with me this matter of matching up area responsibility in order to simplify planning and operating problems. As matters presently stand, a particular Division of OPC covers in part, but not exclusively, four OSO Divisions, while a particular OSO Division overlaps three OPC Divisions. For this reason, it is not possible to authorize representatives of respective Divisions in the two Offices to deal directly and continuously with each other. [REDACTED] suggested that specific individuals in OPC be authorized to consult on a continuing basis with specific individuals in OSO on specific areas with appropriate clearance in each case with Chiefs of the OSO and OPC Divisions concerned. Until these liaisons had been approved each contact would be cleared in the manner described in Paragraph 4, above. [REDACTED] had previously

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given me a list of the area breakdown of OPC and I, accordingly, left with him a list of the countries coming within the jurisdiction of the several OSO Divisions, in order that it might be possible for OPC to plan a more effective matching of areas with the OSO Divisions.

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6. It was recognized by all present that there likewise existed the problem of liaison between the COP Staff (Operations - [REDACTED] and the Division and Branch Chiefs of OPC. It was agreed, however, that that matter was outside the jurisdiction of the Programs and Planning Staff/OPC.

7. Your comments on the above tentative arrangements are requested; likewise, your views as to the desirability for coordination of liaison between the operating units of the two Offices, if that should be a matter on which you wish STB to make recommendations.

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[REDACTED]
Chief, STB